



# Water Quality NewsFlash

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**Funding for Storm Water Controls – LA Measure O passes** – This \$500-million LA City bond proposition titled the “Clean Water, Ocean, River, Beach, and Bay Storm Water Cleanup Measure,” passed with 76% of the vote and will generate funds to address TMDL requirements and other water quality-related projects. \$250M will go for “River, Lakes, Beaches, Bays, and Ocean Water Quality Protection Projects,” while smaller amounts will be allocated for water conservation, flood reduction, parks, and “Storm Water Capture, Clean-Up, and Re-Use Projects.” More information on Prop. O: <http://www.smartvoter.org/2004/11/02/ca/la/meas/O/>.

The City of LA and other area communities will need substantial funds to address upcoming TMDLs including the LA River/Ballona Cr. TMDLs (trash, metals, etc.) and the bacteria TMDLs for the Santa Monica Bay beaches. LA City storm water fees generate \$28 million annually. The City’s website includes estimates of \$120 million needed for implementation of the two trash TMDLs and nearly \$400 million for the Wet Weather Bacteria TMDL. The site notes that the cost of compliance with the more than 60 remaining TMDLs is unknown. An estimate of “strict compliance” with the Trash TMDL including O&M for 10 yr. is \$1.1 billion in City costs. The metals TMDL is estimated to cost \$1.4 billion. *Daily News* article:

<http://www.dailynews.com/Stories/0,1413,200%7E25406%7E2474934,00.html> LA City TMDLs page:  
<http://www.lastormwater.org/WPD/program/TMDLs/tmdls.htm> LA City 2003 presentation at CASQA:  
<http://www.casqa.org/meetings/City%20of%20Los%20Angeles%20Funding.pdf>

**El Nino – Possible winter impacts** – Some increased storms typical of the El Nino weather pattern may continue into the first months of 2005. The National Weather Service predicts that “There is a small chance that El Nino could strengthen to moderate intensity and a smaller chance that it will weaken back to neutral status.”

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/fxus05.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/fxus05.html)

**Illicit Discharges - New manual available** - Municipal stormwater programs, including Caltrans, are required by their permits to develop and implement programs to prevent “illicit,” i.e., illegal, discharges into their storm sewer systems. The Caltrans Statewide Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) describes Caltrans activities to identify and prevent these discharges. The new *Stormwater Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Manual* contains guidance for implementing these programs. The Center for Watershed Protection and the University of Alabama produced the manual under a grant from EPA. It includes helpful supporting materials such as a *Hotline Tracking Form* for logging reports of illicit discharges.

<http://www.cwp.org/IDDE/IDDE.htm>

**Upcoming - CASQA General Meeting** – The California Stormwater Quality Association meets in San Diego, Nov. 19, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; *focus*: beaches, bacteria; fee: \$50, non-members (includes lunch) payable at the door or online: <http://www.casqa.org/>

WQ NewsFlash is a weekly update of storm water and related news for the Department. *Verify information before taking action on these bulletins.* Contact Betty Sanchez, [Betty\\_Sanchez@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Betty_Sanchez@dot.ca.gov) (916) 653-2115, or Fred Krieger, (510) 843-7889, [fkrieger@msn.com](mailto:fkrieger@msn.com) with questions or to be added or deleted from e-mail list. Posted online at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/stormwater/publicat/newsflash/index.htm>